Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 16960 200325Z

11
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /085 W
---------- 109747
R 191050Z DEC 75
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2934
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 16960

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IN, GE, GW
SUBJECT: GDR FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA

SUMMARY: GDR FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER WAS CORRECTLY RECEIVED IN INDIA BUT LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE WAS ACCOMPLISHED. A CONSULAR AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED BUT NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED. FISCHER REPORTEDLY HELD PRELIMINARY TALKS ON FUTURE GDR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS BUT NO DECISION WILL PROBABLY BE TAKEN UNTIL AN INDO-GDR JOINT COMMISSION MEETING NEXT YEAR. THE FRG EMBASSY CLOSELY MONITORED FISCHER'S ACTIVITIES AND WAS GENERALLY PLEASED WITH THE WAY THE INDIANS HANDLED THE VISIT AND RESISTED THE GDR'S FORMULATIONS IN NEGOTIATING THE CONSULAR AGREEMENT. END SUMMARY.

1. GDR FOREIGN MINISTER OSKAR FISCHER HELD TALKS WITH PRESIDENT AHMED, PRIME MINISTER GANDHI, FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN, AND INDUSTRIES MINISTER PAI DURING AN OFFICIAL VISIT DEC. 11-15. NO COMMUNIQUE WAS ISSUED, PRESS COVERAGE WAS MODERATE (ONLY ONE COMMENTARY IN THE DELHI PAPERS), AND APART FROM THE SIGNING OF A CONSULAR CONVENTION LITTLE OF SUBSTANCE APPEARS TO HAVE OCCURRED. AT FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN'S DINNER DEC. 11 FISCHER EXPRESSED "GREAT SYMPATHY" FOR THE MEASURES TAKEN "UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF MRS. GANDHI TO MAINTAIN ORDER AND
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NEW DE 16960 200325Z

SECURITY WITHIN THE COUNTRY", AND CHAVAN IN TURN EXPRESSED

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

APPRECIATION FOR GDR'S SUPPORT OF INDIAN "INITIATIVES" AIMING AT ESTABLISHING "PEACE IN THE SUBCONTINENT THROUGH DIRECT DIALOGUE." NEITHER OF THE GERMAN EMBASSIES IN DELHI NOR THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DESK OFFICER FOR THE GDR HAVE PROVIDED US A CLEAR READING OF THE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN FISCHER AND CHAVAN. THE CALLS ON PRESIDENT AHMED AND MRS. GANDHI WERE DESCRIBED TO US AS COURTESY IN NATURE BY THE MEA OFFICIAL.

2. THE PUBLIC HIGHLIGHT OF FISCHER'S STAY WAS HIS SPEECH TO THE INDIAN COUNCIL OF WORLD AFFAIRS DEC. 12. AS READ IN ENGLISH BY HIS INTERPRETER, IT INCLUDED RHETORICAL FLOURISHES LINKING INDIAN AND GERMAN HISTORY ("THE ACCOMPLICES OF HITLER TOOK THE FIREBRAND OF WAR EVEN TO THE GANGES"), QUOTES FROM MARX, HONECKER, PIECK AND NEHRU, SHARP CRITICISM OF THE PRC ("CHAUVINISM, EXPANSIONISM AND PLOTTING AGAINST NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES"), INDIRECT CRITICISM OF THE US ("FOREIGN AGGRESSORS" DEFEATED IN INDOCHINA), AND DIRECT CRITICISM OF THE FRG ("THE CONCENTRATION AREAS OF THE MOST POWERFUL IMPERIALIST ARMIES IN EUROPE", WITH "4900 CENTERS OF IDEOLOGICAL SUBVERSION AGINST SOCIALISM"). FISCHER GAVE A LENGTHY ELABORATION OF GDR FOREIGN POLICY AND ALLUDED VAGUELY TO ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY SAYING THERE "EXIST NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR IMPLE-MENTING THE PRINCIPLES OF BANDUNG, REPRESENTING COMMON COLLECTIVE EFFORTS OF THE COUNTRIES TO DEFEND AND STRENGTHEN PEACE AND SECURITY" AND TO EXPAND THEIR COOPERATION. FISCHER'S SPEECH WAS ATTENDED BY THE FRG AMBASSADOR DIEHL, A DANISH EMBASSY OFFICER AND APPARENTLY NO OTHERWESTERN REPRESENTATIVE ALTHOUGH INVITATIONS WERE WISELY DISPERSED AMONG THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY BY THE GDR EMBASSY AND INDIAN SPONSORS. ALTHOUGH DIEHL ATTENDED PRIMARILY TO IMPRESS ON THE INDIANS THAT THE FRG EMBASSY KEENLY INTERESTS ITSELF IN ALL GERMAN AFFAIRS, AND SECONDARILY TO LET FISCHER KNOW HIS COMMENTS WERE BEING CAREFULLY MONITORED, THE GDR EMBASSY'S SELF-ESTEEM WAS CLEARLY GIVEN A LIFT IN THE PROCESS. WHEN WE ASKED A GDR EMBOFF ABOUT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER'S SPEECH, HE HAD NOTHING TO SAY ON SUBSTANCE BUT REPORTED WITH OBVIOUS PRIDE THAT DIEHL WAS PRESENT.

3. FISCHER TOLD CORRESPONDENTS ON HIS ARRIVAL IN ELHI THAT HE WOULD SEEK "NEW WAYS AND MEANS" TO ADVANCE INDO-GDR ECONOMIC CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NEW DE 16960 200325Z

COOPERATION. THE FRG POLITICAL COUNSELOR BELIEVES THE GDR IS CONTEMPLATING ITS FIRST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN INDIAN, POSSIBLY INCLUDING AN OFFER OF ASSISTANCE IN A PORT CONSTRUCTION PROJECT IN GUJARAT, AND THAT THIS SUBJECT WAS DISCUSSED WITH MINISTER PAI. DURING FISCHER'S VISIT IT WAS ANNOUNCED GDR DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND CHAIRMAN OF THE STATE PLANNING COMMITTEE WOLFGANG RAUCHFUSS IS EXPECTED EARLY IN 1976 FOR A MEETING OF THE INDO-GDR JOINT ECONOMIC

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

COMMISSION, OF WHICH HE IS CO-CHAIRMAN. A GDR EMBOFF CONFIRMED THAT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS ARE UNDER STUDY AND WOULD PROBABLY BE REVIEWED AT THE JOINT COMMISSION MEETING. HE SAID THERE HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN TECHNICIANS IN INDIA IN CONNECTION WITH THE INSTALLATION OF GDR MACHINERY (E.G. PRINTING PRESSES) BUT SAID NO GDR AID PROJECTS HAD BEEN UNDERTAKEN TO DATE.

4. THE ONE TANGIBLE RESULT OF FISCHER'S VISIT WAS CONCLUSION OF A CONSULAR CONVENTION. ACCORDING TO THE FRG POLITICAL COUNSELOR, THE GDR ORIGINALLY PROVIDED THE GOI WITH ITS PREFERRED TEXT WITH THE AIM OF HAVING IT USED AS THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS, THE FRG DIPLOMAT TOLD US HE WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THE GOI HAD WORKED INSTEAD FROM THE TEXTS OF ITS CONSULAR CONVENTIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA, ENTERED INTO IN 1973 AND 1974 AND STILL AWAITING GOI RATIFICATION. HE BELIEVED FRG REPRESENTATIONS HERE EARLY IN 1975, AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE GDR-AUSTRIAN COUNSULAR AGREEMENT, HAD ALERTED THE GOI TO THE FRG'S STRONG VIEWS ON THE NATIONALITY QUESTION AND PREVENTED THE GDR NEGOITIATING TEAM FROM GAINING A CONVENTION WHICH CONCEDED THE PRINCIPLE OF GDR NATIONALITY. THE FRG POLITICAL COUNSELOR ADDED THERE HAD BEEN ONLY A FEW MINOR "SLIPS" ON THE INDIAN SIDE, FOR EXAMPLE, A REFERENCE TO "GERMAN NATIONALITY OF THE SENDING STATE" IN A PROVISION CONCERNING THE ADOPTION OF ORPHANS. THE FRG MINISTER-COUNSELOR TOLD US THAT THE MEA ADVISED HIM INDIA'S REJECTION OF THE GDR'S PROVISIONS ON NATIONALITY WAS INTENDED AS A CONSCIOUS GESTURE OF FRIENDSHIP FOR THE FRG.
SAXBE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, MINISTERIAL VISITS, CONSULAR AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE16960
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750443-0198
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751224/aaaaaupp.tel
Line Count: 144
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUN 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <22 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GDR FOREIGN MINISTER PAYS OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA SUMMARY: GDR FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER WAS CORRECTLY RECEIVED
TAGS: PFOR, IN, GC, GE, (FISCHER, OSKAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006